

REMARKS

This correspondence is responsive to the office action mailed April 27, 2011 for the above-referenced application. All claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over various combinations of references: claims 1, 11-15, and 32 over Chancey (5,842,185) in view of Wood (7,050,997), and Dilip (7,797,207) and claims 33-34 over Chancey in view of Wood, Dilip and Goldsmith (6,064,990).

All rejections rely on combinations of references including Dilip. Dilip is not prior art under any paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 102, as evidenced by Applicants' reduction to practice of the claimed invention by way of the provisional patent application filed April 13, 2000 (Serial No. 60/198,961). As Applicants' reduction to practice occurred prior to the filing date of Dilip, Dilip is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) or (e), and as Dilip was not published more than one year prior to Applicants' filing date, Dilip is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). Applicants will submit a declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 shortly in support of the above, although Applicants' reduction to practice is evidenced by the referenced provisional application on its face. As Dilip is not prior art, and as all rejections rely on combinations including Dilip, all rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) must be removed.

Applicants recognize that the application as filed included, due to a typographical error, an incorrect incorporation by reference of the above-mentioned serial number, which has been corrected in the amendment included herewith. Applicants note that no claim to priority to the prior application is being made.

The claims therefore are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the application is allowable. Should there be any questions that could advance this application which can be raised in a telephonic interview, Applicants respectfully invite the Examiner to initiate the same.

DATED this 27th day of October, 2011.

Cordially,

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